



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
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## ALEXANDRIA:

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 20, 1858.

A great mistake that members of Congress too frequently fall into when engaged upon subjects of interest or importance, is, that the whole country, and especially their immediate constituents, are as much excited and agitated, as they are, in reference to these subjects. Living in and breathing a heated atmosphere, they are apt to imagine that every body out of that atmosphere, feels as warm as they do—and that the people of the country fully partake of their passions and feelings. Oftentimes this idea leads to conclusions, and speeches, and acts, on their part, which they must regret in the calm of retirement, or when they leave the political excitement of Washington. That city is the focus where congregate the ambitious, the discontented, the mischief makers, the aspirants for power and place; those who have but little to do, and those who want something to do—and would rather be engaged in a disturbance, than anything else. These find fuel ready to their hands; and it is seldom, that a blaze cannot be created in one or other wing of the Capitol—most generally in both.

A stranger or foreigner after travelling through a perfectly calm country, arrives in Washington and finds frequently the most "tremendous excitement" there, about matters of which he hears but little in his journey, or if heard of, only in the way of temperate remark or discussion. It is this fact, which gives to Congress its present unenviable character, as a body of agitators, the fomenters of bad feeling, and the originators of most of the ill blood that prevails between the states and the sections of the country. We know not how or when a reform, in this matter is to be effected; but sure we are that the honest and peace loving people desire some reform should be manifested by their Representatives—misrepresenting them, in the particular to which we have referred.

The Washington States thinks that Mr. Calhoun's statement relative to the famous Delaware Crossing precinct, in Kansas, is "lame and incoherent"—and the National Intelligencer adds some comments on the statement which go to throw suspicion upon the genuineness of the affidavits embodied in it. It appears that two of the judges of the election, (Messrs. Grinter and Munde,) have both sworn that the whole number of votes polled at Delaware Crossing was forty-three, and that this number only were returned by the judges of the election. In truth, it seems as if the frauds, and lies, connected with this Kansas business, all round, and by both of the parties in the territory, would never cease, and could never be unravelled. The anti-Lecomptonists, or Free State party, have themselves to blame for most of the mischief. Why, if they were honest and sincere, and have (as we suppose they have) a large majority of the people of Kansas in their favor, did they not vote upon the Lecompton constitution, and put it down? It was not presented, properly, we know; but they could have cured all, by rejecting it.

Mr. Latrobe, the President of the American Colonization Society, who is now in Russia, writes home to the Society, an interesting letter, showing the difference between emancipation from serfdom in Russia, and emancipation in the United States, and concluding as follows: "Whether the free people of color will avail themselves of what has been done to their behalf, and seek Liberia as the European emigrant seeks America, to better their condition, it is for them exclusively to determine. To them the thunder may long continue audible which the colonizationist even now hails rolling afar off. For years they may remain incredulous as to the accumulation of the circumstances, beyond man's power to control, that shall deprive them of the freedom of choice, and leave them no alternative but removal." It is not every barque that sails the sea that seeks the haven of refuge; but for those that need it, and avail of it, it becomes God's own gift; and if we have perceived such a one for the free people of color in our country, and we should prove to be right in our views as to its necessity, He is to be praised who has prospered the slender means by which the work has been accomplished.

In the debate on Kansas, Slavery, &c., in the House of Representatives, on Thursday, (the Indian Appropriation bill being the matter really in hand), Mr. Shorter, of Alabama, declared that if Kansas is not admitted, "secession must ensue, and he trusted Alabama would be the nucleus of a great Southern confederacy." [We thought that post was reserved for South Carolina.] The honorable gentleman also expressed "his sovereign contempt for the memory of the pilgrim fathers!"

The different reports from the Senate Committee, on the admission of Kansas, were made on Thursday; earlier than was expected. The minority and Mr. Douglas (per se) oppose the admission under the Lecompton constitution. We hope there will be no unnecessary delay in calling up these reports, and acting definitely upon the subject. We assure the members of Congress, that Kansas speeches are unnecessary now. Not even Buncombe will be propitiated by a Kansas speech.

A letter from a Democrat in a neighboring county, says:—"I begin to think, ever enough, we made a mistake when we elected Gov. Wise. I am told Flournoy, is a sound Lecompton Constitution man, and would have gone for the South certain."

John Brower, an eminent merchant of New York, committed suicide by hanging on Sunday morning.

The "postponed Anti-Lecompton meeting" was held at New York, on the 16th, at the Chinese Assembly Rooms. The Hon. Geo. Bancroft presided, and made a brief address. The Hon. E. P. Stanton then addressed the assembly, and gave a narrative of affairs in Kansas as he found and left them, and stated that "the fundamental principle agreed upon between the President and his Cabinet on one side and Governor Walker and himself on the other—that which was obviously the only principle on which anything could be effected—was the sovereignty of the people, the right of the people, to control their own affairs and to establish their own institutions." A series of resolutions were passed, one of them declaring that, as the imposition of the Lecompton constitution on the people of Kansas by Congress would be a violation of the fundamental principle of all free Governments, the true method of settling the difficulty is to refer it back to the people of Kansas. Senator Douglas, Governor Wise and other prominent men, were complimented for their courage, ability, and consistency on this subject.

The London correspondent of the National Intelligencer says that by the recent marriage of the Princess Royal of England with the Prince of Prussia, England is not going to be Germanised, nor Prussia Anglicised. The marriage is little more than a personal and family affair, and we trust that it will be productive of all the personal and family happiness which may be reasonably expected in high or humble life, from a well-assorted union based upon mutual esteem and affection. There are letter writers in Berlin, however, who take a different view of this matrimonial alliance, and regard it as the foundation of great political change, and have consequently commenced much political discussion respecting it.

Sir James Brooke, of Sarawak, is now in England. His territory in Borneo, after the Chinese outbreaks, immediately recovered itself, and is now so perfectly in the hands of the administrators that the Rajah was enabled to leave it at a few days' notice. The greatness and the importance of the work thus accomplished in the East by a single Englishman, is scarcely properly appreciated. Besides planting and fostering a new trade on the coast, whence nearly all intercourse had been driven by piracy, Sir James Brooke is creating a considerable market in the interior.

The different omnibus lines in Baltimore, have sent a delegation to Annapolis not to oppose the proposed City Railroad Bill, but to endeavor to have engrained among its provisions, a clause requiring the Company, in view of the exclusive rights to be given it, to purchase their omnibuses, horses, and equipments. The Company just started in Philadelphia, running on Fifth and Sixth streets, were required to purchase the equipments of the lines running on those streets, that being one of the provisions of the charter, and on this precedent they make claim.

We believe that the course of Senator Mason, with regard to our foreign relations, and especially in reference to the recent movements connected with Central America, is very generally and warmly approved throughout the South, and especially by the people of Virginia. They regard it as eminently just and conservative, and tending to the preservation of not only the peace of the country, but of their own institutions and rights.

Three negro men have been tried in New Kent county, and found guilty of murdering Mr. Grant. The murdered man it will be recollected was shot whilst sitting at his supper table—an account of the murder was published by us soon after it occurred. A negro named Major fired the fatal shot; the other two were "aiding and abetting."

The subject of "selling Corn by weight, instead of measure," was warmly discussed at the Baltimore Corn Exchange on Thursday—and resolutions were finally passed adopting the weight system. There was much confusion, and those opposed to the weight system refused at last to vote at all upon the resolutions.

The bill for the organization of the Militia of the State has passed the House of Delegates by a large majority. Doubtless, the bill will pass the Senate. The plan now before the Legislature is very different from the old Militia system. While it retains some of the principles of the obsolete plan, it adds other provisions which will increase its efficiency.

In obedience to a resolution of the Virginia House of Delegates, the Clerk has made a tabular statement of the amount of money asked for by bills already presented. The total amount for internal improvement companies is \$8,864,400, and the James River and Kanawha Company ask to be absorbed from the payment of the debt of \$6,000,000, which it owes the Commonwealth.

A supplement to the National Intelligencer contains an advertisement filling seven of its pages, of a sale of lots in Washington city, to satisfy the Corporation of said city, for taxes due thereon. The sale is to take place on Tuesday, the 18th day of May next.

The bridge on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, across Snowy creek, gave way on Friday week whilst a train of burden cars were passing over it. The engine got over safely, but five of the cars were precipitated to the bed of the creek and completely demolished.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times, says:—"I understand, in view of the action of the House, that the contestant of H. Winter Davis's seat is likely to abandon the case, as the time in which he can take testimony has about expired."

There is a general impression that the steamer Baltic is seized by Brown, Shipley & Co., of Liverpool. The Baltic did not leave on her regular day.

The Cumberland Telegraph thinks that the next season will be a prosperous one for all the coal mining interests, and those connected with the trade. We hope so.

The Canard mail steamer Arabia, Capt. Stone, left New York on Wednesday morning for Liverpool, with 45 passengers, and \$598,309 in specie.

The bill for the appropriation of \$800,000 to the Covington and Ohio Railroad, has passed the Senate of Va., by a very decisive vote.

The reports from the State Committee on Finance—one, that of the majority, submitted through Mr. Barbour, of Culpeper, the other, that of the minority, submitted through the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Johnston, of Harrison, represent respectively the contrary views—the former of those who favor, the latter of those who oppose, the policy of any considerable appropriation, at the present juncture, to works of internal improvement.

General Scott, accompanied by his aide-de-camp, Colonel G. W. Lay, has it is stated, left Washington for Fort Monroe, Va., where he intends to inspect the troops stationed at that post. He will also examine and report upon the operations of the school of practice for sea-coast battery drill, which the War Department have recently adopted at that post.

Kitchie & Dunnivant are about publishing a faithful Lithographic view of the Virginia Washington Monument—to be sold at \$1 each, for the benefit of the Fund of the Ladies Mount Vernon Association. These Lithographic views may be purchased at the principal bookstores and hotels, and on the Capitol Square, on the Twenty-Second of February.

While the anti-Lecompton democracy of New York find it so difficult to find room to make their thunder, the democratic members of the Legislature at Albany have caucused Kansas into the Union under the democratic convention at Cincinnati, and have, moreover, backed up President Buchanan as meriting "increasing confidence."

Harpers' Magazine for March, has been received. For sale at G. E. French's book store, King street.

**Post Office Affairs.**  
The continual increase of the duties of the Postmaster General having reached an extent which made it almost impossible for one person to attend to them, arrangements have recently been made for dividing the labor among the Assistants, so as to relieve the Postmaster General partially, from the details of the Department business. With this view, and in pursuance of the authority vested in him by the ninth section of the act of July 2, 1856 changing the organization of the Post Office Department, to superintend the disposition of the proceeds of the post offices and other moneys of the Department," the Postmaster General has caused the following order to be issued:

"Ordered, That from and after the 17th day of February, 1858, all drafts drawn upon postmasters for payment of balances, or sums of money certified by the Auditor to be due to creditors of the Post Office Department, and all drafts transferring moneys from one postmaster to another for the service of said Department, shall be signed by the Third Assistant Postmaster General, instead of the Postmaster General as heretofore."

Warrants drawn upon the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers of the United States, and collection drafts prepared in the Auditor's office of the Post Office Department and drawn upon late postmasters and others, will continue to be signed by the Postmaster General as has previously been the custom.—Washington Star.

**Legislative Investigation.**  
An investigation is going on before the Wisconsin Legislature respecting the La Crosse and Milwaukee railroad land grant in that State. The Milwaukee News says that the following is the question put to Thomas Falvey by the investigating committee, and which he declined to answer:

Question.—Did you ever receive from Byron Kilbourne, or any other person, twenty thousand dollars, or any other valuable thing, as a consideration of your services in procuring members of the Legislature, in the year 1856, to vote in favor of a bill granting to the La Crosse and Milwaukee Railroad Company the lands granted by Congress to aid in the construction of Railroads in this State, or any part of said lands.

**From Kansas.**

St. Louis, Feb. 18.—The Kickapoo correspondent of the Republican, reports that a party headed by Charles Leonard, had burned the office of Lawyer Boyd and Dr. Davis, at that place, who, with others, had fled to Missouri. Dr. Diender had been discharged by the committee of investigation.

The Legislature had adjourned. The constitution convention bill had not been approved by the governor.

Armed bodies were reported in the vicinity of Fort Scott, but there had been no fighting.

**Nebraska Territory.**

A private letter from Nebraska city advises us that petitions are in circulation in that portion of the Territory lying south of the Platte river, for its annexation to Kansas, and that they have been generally signed by the residents of that section of the Territory. Fully two-thirds of the people are in favor of being added to "bleeding Kansas," and the writer adds that the matter will be urged upon the attention of Congress. The reason assigned for this movement is the prevailing dissatisfaction at the influence of Omaha city over the legislation of the Territory.—Union.

**Southern Pacific Railroad.**

The New Orleans Picayune states that the first twenty-five mile section of the Southern Pacific Railroad has been completed in full time to comply with the conditions of the Texas charter. The time expired on the 10th instant. The cars are running over the line, and official intelligence had been received to that effect by the officers of the company in New Orleans. The completion of the twenty-five miles of the road entitles the company to sixteen sections of the land per mile, of 256,000 acres for the twenty-five miles, and to a loan of \$6,000,000 out of the school money of the State of Texas.

**Peruvian Guano.**

A letter from an American Captain at the Chinese Islands, says that there is an abundance of guano there, but that it is so freely intermixed with gravel and stones as to require screening previous to its shipment. This process, of course, would make the guano cost more than it would come to. At the date of the letter, November 13th, there were twenty-six chartered vessels loading for England, in every instance the crew having to dig and bring alongside the cargo, and there seemed little or no prospect of any being loaded within the stipulated lay days.

**Mysterious.**

Since the adjournment of the Naval Courts of Inquiry, certain developments have been made, which, we have every reason to believe, will place in a very disagreeable position a naval officer of high rank. The matter will be brought before the attention of Congress, and demands will be made from very responsible sources to dismiss this offender from the service which he has disgraced.—Washington States.

**The Difference.**

Three months ago money could be had only at a rate of two per cent. a month, and even higher in some cases. It is now said that brokers in New York refuse it at five per cent. per annum for a specified time. There appears to be a glut of the article, which will however, soon find an avenue, for its useful employment in the revival of business which is in progress over the whole country.—Balt. Sun.

## Lecompton Investigating Committee.

The following is given as a detailed report of the proceedings of the Lecompton Investigating Committee. Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, submitted the following resolutions, and stated that he and his friends considered it a test vote as to the action of the Committee in allowing witnesses to be subpoenaed and testimony taken:

Resolved, That in order to comply with the order of the House under which this committee was organized, which required that we should inquire into all the facts connected with the formation of said Lecompton Constitution, and the laws under which the same was originated, and also whether the same is acceptable and satisfactory to a majority of the legal voters of Kansas, the chairman be authorized to have summoned to appear before the committee the following named persons, viz: Gov. Robt. J. Walker, General John Calhoun, Hon. F. P. Stanton, and John D. Henderson, to testify to all such facts as they have knowledge of, and to produce all such documents, papers, votes and returns as have any relation to the election of delegates to the Lecompton Constitutional Convention, or to any election subsequently held in the Territory of Kansas.

Mr. Morrill, of North Carolina, wished it distinctly understood that his vote on the above resolution, is not to be considered a test vote as to whether he will endorse the sentiments of said resolution. He wished first to have the documentary evidence that can be procured here before he takes action relative to sending for witnesses.

This was concurred in by Mr. Stephens, of Georgia. Mr. Stephens moved the postponement of the vote on the resolution to the next meeting of the Committee. This was carried by a vote of eight to seven.

Mr. Aitken, of New Jersey, then submitted the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the census of Kansas, taken under the act of the Territorial Legislature of February 19, 1857, is a fact connected with the formation of the Lecompton Constitution into which this committee, by resolution of their appointment, are directed to inquire, and that they will therefore inquire into the same.

Mr. Winslow moved to lay the resolution on the table. This was agreed to by a vote of eight to seven.

2. Resolved, That the apportionment of delegates to the Convention at Lecompton, and whether the same is in conformity with law, are facts connected with the formation of the Lecompton Constitution embraced in the resolution of their appointment, and that they will therefore inquire into the same.

3. Resolved, That the legality of the election of the delegates to the Convention which formed the Lecompton Constitution is a fact connected with the formation of the Lecompton Constitution, into which this committee, by resolution of their appointment, are directed to make inquiry, and that they will therefore inquire into the same.

This was laid on the table—eight to seven. 4. Resolved, That the names of the delegates elected to the Lecompton Constitution, and the number of votes cast for each, are facts connected with the formation of said Constitution into which this committee, by resolution of their appointment, are directed to inquire, and that they will therefore inquire into the same.

This was laid on the table—eight to seven. 5. Resolved, That it is an important fact having relation to the propriety of the admission of Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution, whether or not a large part of the people of Kansas have been in rebellion against the government, and such a fact as this committee are required by the resolution of the House directing said committee to inquire into, and the committee will therefore inquire into the alleged fact.

Laid on the table—eight to seven. The committee adjourned till Wednesday next. It is proposed to state that this was done to accommodate several members of the committee who desire to be absent on the 22d inst.

The democratic caucus of the House which was to have met Wednesday evening, is indefinitely postponed and till called by the chairman.

**French Items.**

The ship Adriatic, which ran away from Marseilles lately and from the constraint of the law, has been stopped near Spezia. One account says she was captured near Spezia by the French ship-of-war which was sent after her; another, that she was refused entrance into the port by the Sardinian authorities. Under either circumstance Captain Dunham has placed himself in a bad position, and will no doubt be severely punished. The Italian journals, however, are filled with accounts of the conduct of Capt. Dunham in the affair with the Lyonsais, which are totally untrue.

Since the attempt, the Emperor and Empress show themselves every day to the people in the street, but generally separately. At night, however, when they go to theatre, much more attention is observed than formerly. A few evenings ago, when going to the Theatre Francaise, the whole route was kept clear by the police, and at the point of arrival no one was allowed to approach near the carriage. Other members of the band of conspirators, it is supposed, are still in the city, who, no doubt, would gladly receive their comrades in prison, by trying to accomplish the assassination; and the necessity of urgent measures is obvious. Many new arrests have been made, and other bombs have been found.

**Puffing Advertisers.**

The Lynchburg Virginian says: Many persons who advertise in the newspapers labor under the strange hallucination that they are entitled to the editorial as well as the advertising columns; that editors should give them a certain amount of puffing without which they do not desire to say that we recognize no such right. Our advertising columns are at the service of the public for a consideration, provided their advertisements are unexceptionable, but the editorial columns are not to let, nor the services of the editor to be called into requisition whenever they may be desired by those who pay for the privilege of advertising, but nothing more.

We choose to favor any body in this way it is our concern and altogether gratuitous, for there is no obligation expressed or implied requiring us to do so. The whole system is becoming a nuisance that must be abated.

**An Artisan Well.**

They are digging an artisan well at Columbus, Ohio, of which the following account is given: "The artisan well is now (February 8) 440 feet deep; the cliff limestone is passed through, and they are now at work in the blue limestone of the Cincinnati region, a stratum which is variously estimated at from 400 to 1,000 feet in thickness. This stratum is much easier to bore than the cliff rock."

When this rock has been passed through, water may be reached; and it is equally possible and probable that much deeper boring will be required.

**British House of Lords.**

By the muster-roll of the "Lords spiritual and temporal" of the present British Parliament, it appears that the whole number who compose the upper house, or House of Lords, is four hundred and fifty-one. Of the entire catalogue, exclusive of princes of royal blood, there are only one hundred and eighteen peers whose titles are older than the reign of George III.

## Admission of Kansas as a State.

A BILL for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union, presented in the Senate by Mr. Green, of Missouri, from the Committee on Territories, February 17, 1858.

Whereas, the people of the Territory of Kansas by their representatives in convention assembled at Lecompton, on said Territory, on Monday, the fourth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, having the right of admission into the Union as one of the United States of America, consistent with the federal constitution, in virtue of the treaty of cession by France of the province of Louisiana, made and concluded on the 30th day of April, 1803, and in accordance with the act of Congress approved on the 30th May, A. D. 1854, entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Kansas and Nebraska," and from for themselves a constitution and State government, republican in form; and the said convention has, in their name and behalf, asked the Congress of the United States to admit the Territory into the Union as a State, on an equal footing with the States already admitted into the Union;

Be it enacted, That the State of Kansas shall be, and is hereby declared to be, one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever; and the said State shall consist of all the territory included within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at a point on the western boundary of the State of Missouri, where the thirty-seventh parallel of latitude crosses the same; thence west on said parallel to the eastern boundary of New Mexico; thence north on said boundary to latitude thirty-eight; thence following said boundary westward to the eastern boundary of the Territory of Utah, on the summit of the Rocky mountains; thence northward on said summit to the fortieth parallel of latitude; thence east on said parallel to the western boundary of the State of Missouri; thence south with the western boundary of said State to the place of beginning: Provided, That nothing herein contained respecting the boundary of said State shall be construed to impair the right of persons or property now pertaining to the Indians in said Territory so long as such right shall remain extinguished by treaty between the United States and such Indians, nor to include any territory which, without the consent of said tribes, is not included within the territorial limits or jurisdiction of any State or Territory, but all such territory shall be excepted out of the boundaries, and constitute no part of the State of Kansas, until said tribe shall signify their assent to the President of the United States to be included within said State, or to affect the authority of the government of the United States to make any regulations respecting such Indians, their lands, property, or other rights, by treaty, law, or otherwise, which it would have been competent to make if this act had been passed.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the State of Kansas be admitted into the Union upon the express condition that said State shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the public lands, or with any regulations which Congress may find necessary for securing the title in said lands to the bona fide purchasers and grantees thereof, or impose or levy any tax, assessment, or imposition of any description whatever upon them, or other property of the United States, within the limits of said State; and nothing in this act shall be construed as an assent by Congress to any of the propositions or claims contained in the ordinance of the said constitution of the people of Kansas, which purport to deprive the said State of Kansas of the same grants which were contained in the act of Congress entitled "An act to authorize the people of the Territory of Minnesota to form a constitution and State government, preparatory to admission into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," approved February 26, 1857.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That until the next general census shall be taken, and an apportionment of representation made, the State of Kansas shall be entitled to one representative in the House of Representatives of the United States.

**Who is Responsible?**

What party is responsible for the adoption of Harris's resolution, and the consequent defeat both of the South and the Administration? What party has the majority in the House of Representatives? We have shown that neither the Republican nor the Whig, nor both combined, have the majority there. It follows, therefore, that the national Democratic party is the majority, and that the national Democratic party is the party alone responsible for the action of the House on Harris's resolution, and for its action on all other subjects. The Democrats have 127 members of the House of Representatives, which number gives them exactly twenty majority over all opposition, Whigs and Republicans combined—there being 107 Whigs and Republicans. And is not a majority of 20 a most excellent and admirable working majority for any party, in any deliberative body on earth? What greater majority could any party desire to have—and especially a party which boasts its professed devotion to all questions? If we are not to have the people believe it is, and national democracy is, as it claims to be, and as it would have the people believe it is, a national party, and a unit on all political questions, why, with a majority of twenty over all opposition in the House of Representatives, was Harris's resolution adopted, the Administration defeated, and the South itself forced to the wall?—Rich. Whig.

**Sad Affair.**

The Frederick Union says: "On Tuesday evening last, at about 8 o'clock, a Mrs. Mary Ann Egbert, who was standing in the door of her father's residence, in Market street, engaged in conversation with a young gentleman of her acquaintance, a young man by the name of Milton Slope, who had previously been on friendly terms with the young lady, came up, and, halting for a moment, drew a pistol from his pocket and discharged it, the contents entering the face of Miss Egbert, and inflicting several very painful wounds, but we are happy to learn that they are not considered of a very dangerous character. Slope has been arrested, and is now in prison."

**Making an Assignment in New York.**

The Syracuse (N. Y.) Journal tells the following: A man not a thousand miles from Syracuse, having made an assignment some years since, was called upon by a New York creditor to whom he exhibited his books, and with whom he proposed to settle at fifty cents on the dollar.

The New York man replied, "How can you pay fifty cents on the dollar? Your assets will not pay over fifty cents."

"Well, never mind that," says the unfortunate assignee, "if my assets will not pay the fifty cents I will make up the deficiency out of my own pocket."

**Attempt to Throw a Train off the Track.**

About 10 o'clock on Monday night last, the Eastward bound express train on the Central Ohio Railroad, encountered an iron rail lying straight across the track. Fortunately the approaching train had reduced its speed in such a manner as to merely break the rail, throwing a piece to each side of the track. Persons on the train with lanterns followed the tracks of the perpetrator of the act, in the snow, and murder will be fastened upon an Irishman who had been discharged from the employ of the road a day or two before.

## Greece.

King Otto's Minister of Finance, Mr. Comandouras, has presented an extensive and satisfactory report on the material progress of Greece since the year 1854 to the year 1856. An enlightened paper, the Hellenic army has issued a paper, to teach his countrymen the means of naturalizing that industrial and commercial activity which constitute the power of the West of Europe. Mr. Corneo's inculcates, first, external peace and domestic order as indispensable. He proves that good internal communications, including railways, would be less expensive in Greece than elsewhere, a hundred and twenty-five leagues of railroad are projected. This officer argues that the 1-thmus of Corinth may be cut by a canal at a small comparative cost. It is but a few leagues wide; its breadth varies from four to eight miles; twenty-five millions of francs would suffice here, if, as Mr. de Lesseps calculates, not more than a hundred and sixty millions be required for the Suez canal—thirty-seven leagues of Greece boasts of 30,000 square miles, not, however, rich in gold. Mr. Corneo demonstrates how easy it would be to improve and construct, so as to meet all the wants of trade and navigation. Then, the marble quarries, famed in ancient history, and yet inexhaustible, the adequate working of which there is no natural impediment.

After her war of independence Greece rebuilt from their ruins her devastated cities and villages; the Piræus, Sparta, Chalcis, Nauplia, Argos, and Patros bear no resemblance to what they were, in their wretchedness, forty years ago; all flourish in every respect. In 1854, the inhabitants of the Peloponnese (the Morea) and of Continental Greece were reckoned at 612,608; the present figure is 1,045,000, engorged in commerce, agriculture, and navigation; the number of dwellings and their value are proportionally augmented; the immigrations to Greece from the Ottoman empire have been considerable. Greece produces relatively no great amount of cereals; last year the quantity of grain, however, exceeded the home consumption by about six millions of pounds; the raising of cattle is backward. The culture of the vine is highly important. In 1851, the crop of currants for exportation amounted to sixty-two millions of quarts. The breadth of land assigned to the vine is fifteen fold larger than in 1834; silk is the next product in magnitude; last year, the income from silkworms was 5,523,000 drachms; the number of mulberry trees is a million and a half. The fig tree and the olive thrive wonderfully; they afford great profits to the possessors and a large revenue to the State. The Minister claims for Greece four thousand three hundred and thirty-nine vessels. The railway from the Piræus to Athens has been conceded to a French company, with a guaranty of five per cent from the Government. At its instance the French Minister of Public Works sent, four months ago, one of the ablest officers of the Corps of Pontons to Athens, to superintend the construction of railroads generally, and he has drawn a body of picked workmen from France.—Cor. of Mr. Walsh.

[There are but few who will not read the above with pleasure. Greece must always command the sympathies and good wishes of the world—though there is much in the character and condition of her people, and in her present government, to make us almost despair of her future greatness. But, "the past is at least secure," and her ancient fame makes us desire to see her again prosper and have a great name among the nations of the earth.]

## Maryland Legislature.

The Eastern Shore members of both branches of the Legislature held a caucus last night, in the Senate chamber, with closed doors. The subject of their deliberations can only be learned from rumor, but it is reported that a deep sense of indignation was expressed at the efforts being made to repudiate their claim to the portion of the eight million bill assigned them under the act of 1835, &c. Resolutions were presented, it is said, of a character to seriously embarrass the general legislation of the State, though the organization of the Eastern Shore members. Hints are thrown out that strong determined action will be recommended, but that the conservative members begged that the preamble and resolutions might be laid over to give time for calm and deliberate consideration, and the caucus was adjourned to meet again this evening. The hope was also expressed by members that some plan might be hit upon to reconcile the existing difficulties, and to avoid a resort to serious and unpleasant measures in order to secure the rights claimed by the Eastern Shore.—Annapolis Corr. of the Balt. Sun.

## Snow in Pennsylvania.

It is stated that the snow storms in the eastern part of Pennsylvania have been so heavy as to cause considerable delay in the delivery of eastern freight at Pittsburgh. West of Harrisburg the Pennsylvania railroad is in many places completely barred by the snow, and the company are obliged to keep men constantly employed in removing the snow from the track.

## MAGAZINES AND NEW BOOKS AT

FRENCH'S—Harper's Magazine for March, is a splendid number, 25 cts. Godey's Lady's Book for March, contains beautiful fashion plates, 25 cts. Graham's Magazine for March, 25 cts. Ladies' National Magazine, 18 cts. Arthur's Magazine for March, 18 cts. Emerson's & Putnam's Magazine for March, 25 cts.

Scenes of Clerical Life, the Sad Fortunes of Rev. Amos Barton, Mr. Giffitt's Love Story, Janet's Repentance, by George Eliot, from Blackwood's Magazine, 50 cts. The Reason Why, a fresh supply, \$1. All the new Books, Papers, and Magazines on hand, 10 cts.

## POTOMAC LODGE, MALE INSTITUTE,

will be reopened on Tuesday morning next, February 23d, at the usual hour. The committee take pleasure in informing the patrons of the Institute that the services of an experienced and well qualified Teacher, Mr. E. Brown, has been engaged who will take charge during Mr. Mason's sickness. If an increased patronage will justify it, his services will continue. We call upon all of our friends to sustain the enterprise. Feb 20—3t

## NOTICE—Having taken out letters of ad-

ministration on the estate of J. T. B. Perry, dec'd., all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them to me, and those indebted are requested to settle their accounts as soon as possible. JOHN PERRY, Feb 20—601m Administrator.

## REMOVAL—STONE &amp; CO., Druggists,

would respectfully notify their friends and patrons, that they have removed to J. M. Stewart's new building